

CHIMERIC PROSTATE-HOMING PEPTIDES WITH
PRO-APOPTOTIC ACTIVITY

This application is based on, and claims the benefit of, U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/_____ (yet to be assigned), filed January 21, 2000, which was converted from U.S. Serial No. 09/489,582, and entitled CHIMERIC PROSTATE-HOMING PEPTIDES WITH PRO-APOPTOTIC ACTIVITY, and which is incorporated herein by reference.

This work was supported by grants CA74238, CA28896 and CA30199 from the National Cancer Institute (USA), and by grant DAMD17-98-1-8581 from the Department of Defense. The United States government has certain rights in this invention.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to the fields of cancer biology and drug delivery and, more specifically, to the selective targeting of antimicrobial peptides to the prostate.

20

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Prostatic adenocarcinoma recently became the most frequent cancer diagnosed in American men, surpassing the frequency of lung cancer for the first time. An estimated 30,000 American men die annually of this malignancy. Furthermore, prostate cancer affects men throughout the world, with the highest frequencies